

Response to Amendment

1. The reply filed on April 23, 2009 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): applicant's traversal of the previously presented election/restriction requirement is not clearly set forth. At the bottom of page 2 and the top of page 3 of the remarks filed on April 23, 2009, applicant states that the technical feature of the present invention is described in claims 44-68 (i.e., Invention I as identified by the examiner) and then describes the details of the technical feature. Then applicant states that "thus, Inventions I, II, III, IV, and V relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 by sharing the same or corresponding special technical features". However, the technical features described on pages 2-3 and recited in claims 44-68 do not characterize and do not appear to be recited in the remaining claims corresponding to Inventions II, III, IV, and V as identified by the examiner. Furthermore, applicant fails to explain how, in the absence of corresponding limitations in the remaining claims, the above-stated conclusion is reached. Thus, one or more arguments appear to be missing from applicant's remarks and applicant's remarks and conclusion are not clearly understood. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric whose telephone number is 571-272-4909. The examiner works a flexible schedule, but can normally be reached weekdays between 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J. Tyler can be reached on 571-272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3744

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744